

NEWS FROM THE PEWS...

News and Inspiration from St. Andrew's United Church, Georgetown, ON

Thursday, December 18, 2025

St. Andrew's United Church News from the Pews

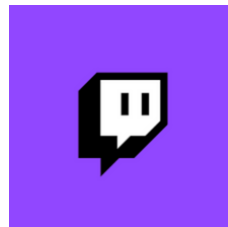


St. Andrew's United Church
89 Mountainview Rd. S. Georgetown ON L7G 4T9
www.standrewsuc.ca (905) 877-4482



One License: #738674-A
CCLI License #2633008

**We stream our worship services Sundays at 10 am
on Facebook Live, YouTube, Twitch & 100.3 FM
Click on the icons below to connect!**



St. Andrew's United Church

Worship this Week - Sunday, December 21st

4th Sunday of Advent, Year A
The Baptism of Jensen Arthur Pepper
The Hebrew Scriptures: Isaiah 7:10-16
The Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25
Reflection: 'Invisible'

**Thank you to our volunteers and everyone participating in the service
this week!**

Advent Readers: The Scott Family
Scripture Reader: Graeme Thompson
Coffee Time Volunteers: Gail Bancroft and Colleen Armstrong

Offering Counters: Pat Moore and Ross Yahiro
Front Door Greeter: Florence Riehl

[Please click here to view this week's Order of Service](#)

Worship this Week - Wednesday, December 24th

Christmas Eve - A Service of Candlelight and Communion

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 9:2-7, John 1:1-5

Meditation For Christmas Eve

Scripture Reader: Mark Heinmiller

Front Door Greeter: Florence Riehl

[Please click here to view the Christmas Eve Order of Service](#)

Important EAT Announcement

Some have asked the **QUESTION:** "Why was a congregational vote not needed to approve the collaborative agreement and shared ministry between St. Andrew's and St. John's Communities of Faith. (Congregational Meeting held November 23rd).

ANSWER: Due to the short (6-month) timeline of the agreement and shared ministry contract, the Horseshoe Falls Regional Council (United Church of Canada) advised that a vote was not needed. Moving forward, any extensions to that agreement or any new agreement would require a vote.

At the December Board Meeting (December 16th), the following dates were agreed upon as the congregation moves through the next two months leading to the Annual Meeting.

January 18th - following worship at St. John's, Report from the EAT Committee. The Exploring Amalgamation Team (EAT) will present its findings and recommendations.

January 25th - following worship at St. Andrew's, a congregational meeting to have an open conversation for St. Andrew's about amalgamation.

February 8th - Motions will be presented to congregations two weeks before the Annual Meeting for voting purposes on February 22nd.

February 22nd - Annual Meetings at both congregations to vote on the amalgamation.

St. Andrew's Board Meetings

Tuesday, January 20 at 7:30 pm

*Monday, January 26th at 7:30 pm (extra meeting)

Tuesday, February 17th at 7:30 pm

The Board also decided by motion that 66% (2/3 majority) in both congregations will be necessary for the amalgamation vote to pass.



Scripture Summary

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

Humour Corner

What do sheep say to each other on Christmas?
Fleece Navidad!

Membership Announcements

Poinsettia Memorial Donations

The beautiful poinsettias gracing our sanctuary this Christmas have been thoughtfully purchased in memory of cherished loved ones.

In memory of Dorothy Armstrong and Fran Trowbridge

From Colleen and Rick Armstrong

In memory of Howard Beitz

From Marlene Beitz

In memory of family and friends

From Jean Brown

In memory of Bert Burns

From Carolyn Burns

In memory of Emerson and Gerry Clarke

From Joyce and Lee-Anne Clarke

In memory of In memory of my Parents, Jack and Jean White

From Valerie Jordan

In memory of Alan and Evelyn Martin and Ron Lovegrove

From Scott, Barb Martin and Family

In memory of Elsie & Don McClure and Norma and Chuck Hattey

From Nora and Phil McClure

In memory of loved ones

From Linda McKinnon

In memory of Margaret's sister, Joan

From Earl and Margaret Pepper

In memory of Earl Lewis Nelson

From Florence Riehl

In memory of Arthur Christmas

From the Scott, Pepper and Christmas Family

In memory of Richard Scott

From the Scott, Pepper and Christmas Family

In memory of loved ones

From Nancy and Graeme Thompson

In memory of Michelle's grandparents and Ross' brother, Doug

From the Yahiro Family

In memory of our parents, Tom and Mary McLarty

and Derrick and Pat Young

From Kate and Neil Young

In memory of our loved ones

From Kate and Neil Young

Christmas Cantata and Tree of Warmth



Christmas Cantata

We celebrated our Christmas Cantata last Sunday, "The Last Prophet." It was an incredible performance by our choir that filled our sanctuary with beautiful music and Christmas Spirit. A big thank you to Sue Whaley for her dedication, leadership, and the care she pours into making each cantata so special!

Tree of Warmth

Thanks to the incredible support of our congregation and our renters, we donated 274 pounds of food and numerous gift cards to the Georgetown Bread Basket. A bag of winter gear was also donated to the Out of the Cold Program, and four boxes and two bags of warm items were delivered to Links2Care, along with sundry packets containing essentials such as toothbrushes and toothpaste. A heartfelt thank-you to everyone who donated!

Christmas Day Service with the Immanuel Lutheran Church

The Immanuel Lutheran Church has invited our congregation to join them for their Christmas Day Service. 10AM at St. Andrew's with coffee time to follow. All are welcome and we thank them for their hospitality!

Christmas Greetings

Thanks to all of you for your fellowship, friendship and support throughout 2025. It means so much!

"The light of the Christmas star to you,
The warmth of home and hearth to you,
The cheer and good will of friends to you,
The joy of a thousand angels to you,
The love of the Son, And God's peace to you."
(Irish blessing)

This Sunday so much is planned so you don't want to miss it.
The children are singing, the bell choir is ringing and a baptism is happening.
Please join us!
Blessings Rick & Colleen



Advent Sunday #4 Love

Oh love's a word we know quite well
It makes our heart beat fast
That special one whose smile melts ice
We pray that it will last
To make it last you be love
In everything you do
Is it me I'm thinking of right now
Or have I thought of you
Let's take a trip and go within
To the region of our heart
And bring to mind a treasured thought
Of a friend, a place, some art
It's when we love our heart is touched
And opens to the flow
Of the love that comes from deep within
And makes our presence glow
Let care and kindness guide your way
Be kind to the ones on the street
Let love and compassion light up your life

Igniting each one that you meet

If you have announcements, milestones to celebrate, or photos to share for next week's News from the Pews, please send them to the office by Wednesday.

St. Andrew's Announcements



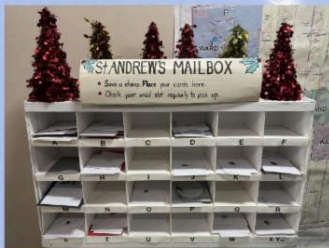
**ST. ANDREW'S
FREE CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY DINNER**

Friday, December 19th
Doors Open at 5:30 PM

We hope you can join us this month for a full Turkey dinner! With special performances from the Hillsview Centre Band!

All are welcome!

Christmas Card Exchange at St. Andrew's



The mail slots for our Christmas Card Exchange are back! Save on postage and bring your Christmas cards for Church friends to church! Also, don't forget to check the slots once in a while for cards addressed to you!



NOW ACCEPTING:
Winter Coats and Boots Only



ST. ANDREW'S FREE CLOTHING ROOM

Clothing room hours:
**9:00am-12:00pm Tuesdays and Thursdays
or by appointment**

All are welcome!
Thank you for all of your donations!



Weekly Bible Study

***Every Thursday at 10:00am
in the fellowship room***

Bible Study will Resume on January 8th.
Newcomers are always welcome,
please join us in the new year!

- We pray and we listen for God's voice through Scripture, reflection, and silence



ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 2025

It's hard to believe it's that time of year again!

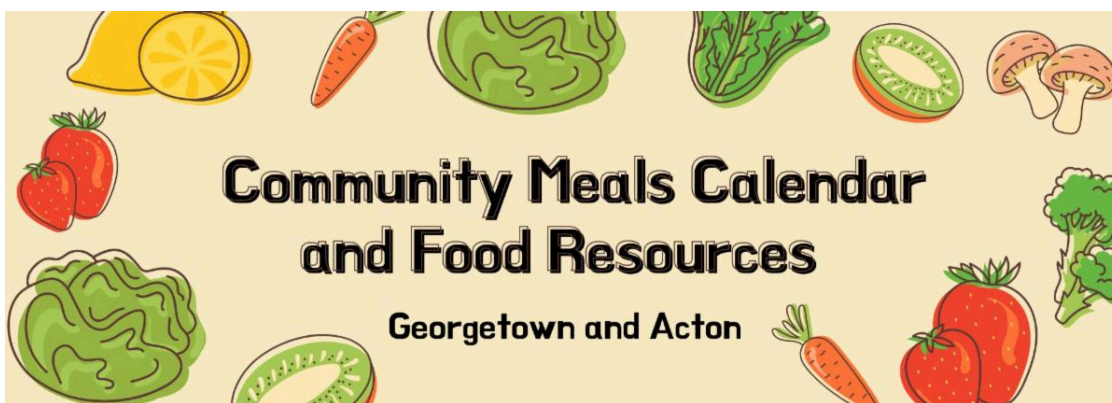
To all Ministries, Committees, and Groups:

Please submit your reports for the 2025 Annual Report to
the office by **Sunday, January 18th, 2026.**

Reports can be emailed to: office@standrewsuc.ca.

If your committee does not have a Chairperson, please
assign a member (or members) to prepare the report. If
you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact the
office. Thank you for your contributions!

Community Announcements



[Click here to view December's calendar, as well as more details about local food resources](#)



Norval United Church is pleased to host a monthly safe space drop-in for 2SLGBTQIA+ youth and allies from Georgetown and the surrounding area. This program is offered in partnership with PRISM and provides a supportive, welcoming environment for youth to connect with one another.

The drop-in takes place in the youth room at Norval United Church and is supervised by at least two adult allies with current police checks. Activities are casual and youth-led, typically including crafts, games, or other creative options based on the interests of those attending.

Events are usually held monthly on the first Friday, with details shared on social media. Our next drop-in will be held on January 9th. Please see the attached poster for event details and follow social media for future dates.



Strengthening Communities

Credit: The United Church of Canada



Resident Desmond gives back through his gift of music.

During the 2025 federal budget announcement, Prime Minister Mark Carney delighted many by highlighting a Mission and Service partner: Bissell Centre in Edmonton.

Introducing the new Build Communities Strong Fund, he said, “We’ll build Canada strong with projects that build our communities strong,” naming Bissell Centre’s work to reduce homelessness as an example of the kind of impact this new investment hopes to strengthen.

Bissell Centre is a trusted community anchor in Edmonton’s inner city. Their programs meet people where they are—with supports that help people stay safely housed, employment programs that open doors to long-term stability, community meals that offer dignity and connection, and family supports that ensure children and parents have the care they need. At every step, Bissell walks with people through some of the hardest moments of their lives and helps them build a path toward thriving.

While Bissell Centre’s roots go back more than a century, their mission today is urgent and forward-looking: reducing poverty, preventing homelessness, and creating a community where everyone belongs. Their approach is practical, compassionate, and deeply responsive to local needs.

Being included in the early list of projects for the federal Build Communities Strong Fund highlights how trusted and effective Bissell Centre’s work has become. National leaders are taking notice, but the real transformation happens one person, one story, one act of support at a time.

Mission and Service gifts help make this partnership possible. Thank you for supporting ministries that meet people with compassion and help build stronger communities every day.

Congratulations to the Bissell Centre for their important work and community connections!

WAYS TO GIVE

We thank all those that continue to support our Church with your giving!



CASH & CHEQUE



CANADA HELPS



SCAN ME for more details



ETRANSFERS TO
standrewsgeorgetown89@gmail.com



Our Charitable Registration Number is: 892633462RR0001

Sent with love 

Halton as we know it today is rich in history and modern traditions of many First Nations and the Métis. From the Anishinabe to the Attawandaron, the Haudenosaunee, and the Métis - these lands surrounding the Great Lakes are steeped in Indigenous history. We acknowledge and thank the Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation for sharing their traditional territory with us.



We would love to share our News from the Pews! Please feel free to share with a friend...



Share This Email



Share This Email



Share This Email

www.standrewsuc.ca

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!